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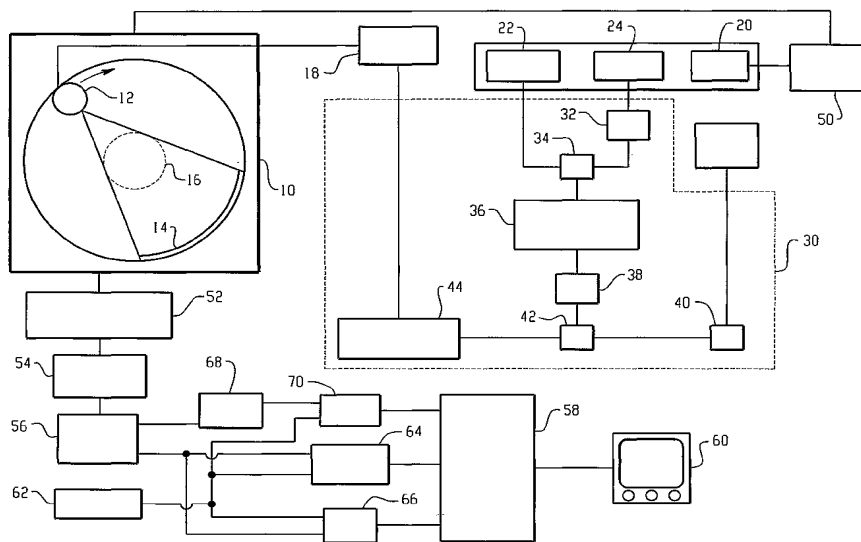
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(54) Title: AUTOMATIC DOSE ADAPTATION AS A FUNCTION OF PATIENT BODY MASS INDEX IN CT CALCIUM SCORING



(57) Abstract: A weight (22) and height (24) of a patient who is to undergo a calcium screening examination in an x-ray diagnostic scanner (10) is used to calculate an appropriate x-ray dose in terms of tube current (mAs) for the calcium screening examination in accordance with the formula: $mAs = c(BMI)^2$, where BMI is a patient's body mass index defined as: $BMI = \text{patient weight} / (\text{patient height})^2$ and C is a constant selected in accordance with a target required noise. In this manner, patients can be scanned with a minimum dose necessary to achieve the target noise, e.g., 20 HU. The images can be compared with earlier (and subsequent) images that have the same target noise.

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